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ABSTRACT

Emphasizing real-life communication skills, this book offers cooperative activities to help teachers supplement their writing programs with easy-to-use critical thinking activities. The activities in the book are suitable for grades 4 through 8, for gifted younger students, or as a remediation tool for older students. The activities are aimed at the development of writing and following directions. The tasks involve students in organizing various types of information and using visual imagery and visual discrimination. The students must become familiar with concepts and terminology related to orienteering. Each of the 23 activities in the book is constructed around a map and two different sets of Writer's Instructions, each with a more detailed small map. The activities include: spelunking, visit to the wetlands, going to the zoo, busing it, haunted house, finding the pharaohs, the bakery, the city library, space shuttle, and desert motocross race. Students, working in pairs, write directions for other students to follow: directions are then exchanged and students try to find the hidden goal as instructed by their peers. A suggested teaching strategy and modeling sample precede the activities in the book. (RS)

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